

UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES

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29 July 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE USU BRIGADE

SUBJECT: Brigade Commander's Policy Statement on Alcohol Use

My number one concern is the health, safety and well-being of all Brigade personnel. Excessive alcohol use is a threat to each of us, whether through our own actions or those of others. Alcohol misuse, abuse and dependency are all too common in our society. Personal lives, families and careers suffer and can be lost as a consequence. We must protect our Brigade family from such avoidable and often tragic loss.

If and when brigade personnel choose to consume alcohol, I expect them to do so responsibly. Responsible use of alcohol means no underage drinking, no drinking and driving, no drinking to excess. It means drinking only when and where it is legally permitted and not when it might impact the performance of your military and other professional duties. The Navy Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program (DAPA), the Air Force Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment (ADAPT) program and the Army Substance Abuse Program (ASAP), [OPNAV Instruction 5350.4D, AFI 44-121 and AR 600-85, respectively] are designed to simultaneously promote military readiness and maintain overall health and wellness of personnel. For additional information on these programs, please contact HM1 Joe Monsivais, Brigade DAPA Coordinator (301-295-1479),

Awareness of alcohol abuse/misuse can minimize the negative consequences to the individual, family, and ultimately our organization. Early recognition and referral can help prevent alcohol-related incidents, such as Driving Under the Influence (DUI) or Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) citations, which become a matter of official command interest and additional investigation. If you are concerned that you or a colleague are having difficulty with alcohol, I urge you to speak with HM1 Monsivais, your immediate supervisor, the Senior Enlisted Leader, our command chaplain, a trusted colleague, your health care provider, or bring the matter directly to my attention. We will do all we can to assist and realign the course of the individual BEFORE their life is further impacted.

As military members and professionals, we serve as role models and are carefully observed by those around us, both when in and out of uniform. Be smart; take care of yourself and your fellow service members.

> TANIS M. BATSEL STEWART CAPT, MC, USN

Brigade Commander